

September 5, 1997

SUBJECT: CIVIC YOUTH STRATEGY

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT THE Board endorse the Recommendation in the attached City Council Progress Report on the Civic Youth Strategy.

POLICY

The Board has developed policy and procedures to guide the development of programs for participants of all ages, and has adopted strategies specific to youth between the ages of 8 and 18 years.

The Developmental Blueprint for Park Board Youth Services was adopted by the Park Board in November, 1992.

The Civic Youth Strategy was adopted by City Council and by a number of other Boards, including the Park Board, in 1995.

BACKGROUND

The Vancouver Civic Youth Strategy was adopted by Council on March 28, 1995. It is a statement of commitment to work in partnership with youth and the larger community on issues affecting youth. The implementation of the Civic Youth Strategy is an ongoing venture in which the policy, objectives and principles of the Civic Youth Strategy are translated into action.

The May 14th, 1996 meeting of Council approved a recommendation directing the Co-Chairs of the Civic Youth Strategy Core Committee to provide annual progress reports to Council.

The attached report has been prepared by the Co-Chairs; Adrienne Montani - the City's Children and Youth Advocate, and Greg Eng - Recreation Manager for the Vancouver Park Board. The report will be presented to Council on September 23rd, 1997.

DISCUSSION

The report provides a summary of the achievements and work in progress which occurred during the second year of implementing the Civic Youth Strategy. It reports back on the work plan endorsed by Council on May 14th, 1996; provides highlights from the departmental action plans which include 1996/97 accomplishments and 1997/98 implementation initiatives; outlines some challenging issues and discusses future directions for sustaining the Civic Youth Strategy.

The Board of Parks and Recreation has played a leadership role, not only in the policy development, but also in the implementation of the Strategy. Parks and Recreation will continue to Co-Chair the Civic Youth Strategy, play a leadership role in the Vancouver Coalition of First Line Children and Youth Service Providers; and work with the Ministry of Children and Families, and the Vancouver School Board in developing community based services. Furthermore, Parks and Recreation will continue to provide leadership in the two major City-wide Civic Youth Strategy Projects: Youth Week and Partners at Work.

CONCLUSION

The Civic Youth Strategy is shared across City departments as well as within the non-profit community and among youth themselves. All City departments have become involved in working with youth. Park Board and Council's leadership in Youth Services, demonstrated by its commitment to implementing the principles of the Civic Youth Strategy throughout its program initiatives, remains invaluable.

Prepared by:
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